

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 2326 - HB 2629

March 15, 2018

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the Department of Children's Services (DCS) to develop instructional guidelines for child safety training programs for teachers no later than January 1, 2019. Requires, after July 1, 2019, child safety training programs be included in teacher in-service training. Requires teachers to complete a child safety training program prior to the Department of Education (DOE) granting a teacher a license or licensure renewal.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase Local Expenditures – Up to \$60,000/One-Time*

Assumptions:

- Based on information from the DCS, the department can develop the required instructional guidelines for child safety training programs utilizing existing resources within the department.
- Based on information provided by the Department of Education (DOE), in-service training for educators is provided by the LEA.
- The language of this legislation does not specify who would be responsible for developing the referenced child safety training program for teachers. Given that LEAs are responsible for providing in-service training under current law, it is assumed LEAs will be required to develop the program based on the instructional guidelines developed and provided by the DCS.
- In order for LEAs to develop the program, it is assumed much collaboration amongst LEAs, as well as with the DCS and the DOE, will be required in order to develop a uniform statewide program that meets the requirements of this legislation and any other provisions of state or federal law.
- The cost of program development to LEAs is unknown; however, to fully effectuate the provisions of this legislation, the mandatory one-time increase in local expenditures is reasonably estimated as an amount up to \$60,000.
- Further, the provisions of this legislation make the referenced child safety program a requirement prior to the issuance of a teaching license. Given that educators cannot be employed by an LEA prior to receiving a license, it is unclear how and when licensure candidates would receive the required child safety training. In addition, it is unknown who would provide the required training to licensure candidates prior to receiving their teaching license. To the extent LEAs are responsible; there would be additional mandatory increases in local expenditures.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Krista M. Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

/vlh